IN THE SPECIFICATION

On page 1, at line 7, please amend the first paragraph under the heading "CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION" as follows:

This application is related to a co-pending application entitled "Globally Optimum Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Joint Carrier Frequency Offset and Symbol Timing Error," U.S. Ser. No. 09/496,890, filed on March 2, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,678,339, assigned to the assignee of the instant invention, and the disclosure therein is hereby incorporated by reference into the instant application.

On page 4, at line 22, please amend the paragraph under the heading "SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION" as follows:

Motivated by the sub-optimum performance of estimators of the prior art, a likelihood function for joint estimation of carrier frequency offset and symbol timing error of OFDM systems is disclosed in the related, copending application; and a new optimum ML joint estimator is disclosed therein. In order to reduce the variance of that estimator, a new class of MVU estimators for frequency offset estimation of PFDM OFDM systems is disclosed herein.

On page 10, at line 20, please amend the first paragraph under the heading "DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION" as follows:

The cross-referenced co-pending application entitled "Globally Optimum Maximum Likelihood Estimation of Joint Carrier Frequency Offset and Symbol Timing Error," U.S. Ser. No. 09/496,890, filed on March 2, 2000, now U.S. Patent No. 6,678,339, incorporated by reference discloses a probability density function (PDF), p, which globally characterizes an observation vector x according to the equation